The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives a brief summary of important matters affecting labor occurring in the industrial, legislative and judicial fields, and such other information as will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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Ignorance never settles a question.—Benjamin Franklin.

WHOLE NO. 1147 — WILLIAM GREEN, President — WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, APRIL 1, 1933 — FRANK MORRISON, Secretary — VOL. 23, NO. 4.

Green Pledges U. S. Labor to Work For End to Nazi Attacks on Jews

New York.—American labor will do all within its power to bring about an end to the persecution of the Jewish people in Germany, President William Green of the American Federation of Labor declared at a great protest meeting in Madison Square Garden to protest against the ill treatment of Jews by the Hitler regime.

Twenty thousand persons jammed Madison Square Garden and 25,000 listened to the speeches through amplifiers outside. The speakers included former Governor Smith, Senator Robert F. Wagner, Rabbi Stephen S. Wise, and others. The meeting was one of many protest gatherings held throughout the United States.

"When any nation violates the laws of humanity, shocks international conscience, engages in persecution of minorities and follows a barbaric, barbaric course toward helpless men and women who have committed no crime and who have become the victims of racial hate, then the voice of the American Federation of Labor will be raised in solemn protest," President Green said.

"Will Not Remain Passive"

"We will not remain passive and unconcerned when the relatives, families and friends of the Jewish people of our great economic organization are being persecuted and oppressed. We will come to their defense because the bonds of brotherhood which bind us so closely in a great economic organization make their great human problems a part of our own.

"I come tonight in the name of Labor protesting, in its sacred name, against the atrocities which are being perpetrated upon the Jewish population of Germany. I transmit to the officers and members of the German trade unions, the masses of the people, the hosts of labor in Germany and to the Jewish people an expression of sympathy and interest.

"We pledge them our moral and economic support. We will render every assistance possible and do all that lies within our power to bring about an end of the campaign of persecution which has been unjustly launched against the Jewish people in Germany.

U. S. Aids Oppressed

"The Government of the United States has always responded to the cry for help from oppressed people. . . . We can rest assured it will not fail us now. President Roosevelt, a great humanitarian, inspired by American ideals and American principles, will guard and protect the interests of all American citizens of the Jewish race now in Germany and will bring to bear the great moral influence of this great Republic upon the distressing situation in Germany to the end that persecution and oppression of Jewish people will cease.

"Our appeal is to the heart and conscience of the world. Let those who officially speak for Germany be advised that the people of our beloved land will never tolerate or condone the persecution of the people of a noble race who, through all the centuries of recorded time, have made a distinct contribution to the advancement of the material, spiritual and intellectual well being of the human race. It is in this spirit, and in this purpose I join with you in this most extraordinary and impressive meeting."

Work for Million of Jobless Provided by Road Construction

By THOMAS H. MacDONALD
Chief, United States Bureau of Public Roads

While highway work is to a considerable extent seasonal, through 1930 the State and Federal aid work provided a continuous average direct employment of 288,000 men which together with those engaged in the production of materials and equipment for road improvement totalled close to 1,000,000 persons.

Due to the limitations on funds now generally enforced, the ratio of those indirectly employed is possibly less than for the previous years, but those wards of 800,000 men are directly and indirectly dependent upon the income from the Federal and State highway construction and maintenance activities.

With all materials, as well as the principal cost for work, reduced beyond all reasonable chance for profits, 80 to 90 per cent of the dollar spent for road work is paid out for labor and personnel employment. With the reduced hours and the policy of employing through local committees those most in need, the distribution of the road expenditures is generally reaching those for whom provision is most necessary.

The improved highway system of the Nation which have made possible the far-reaching and widely diversified utilization of the motor vehicle have been accomplished through government. They are the result of public policy and public administration.

Highway transport is performing services so intimately and so necessarily a part of every phase of individual and community life that the cutting of existing and extension of new highway facilities have been adversely affected by a relatively small percentage up to this time.

The future is more uncertain. There are many forces working not only to stop new work, but to undermine and destroy much of the value existing in that which has been accomplished.

It requires upward of 10 years to develop the principles and policies which are responsible for today's improvement in practice. But it will be possible to tear down and to destroy much of that achievement in a good government almost overnight unless calm judgment rules.

Highway construction and maintenance offer a field in which production does not pile up surpluses; provides for consumption of materials; for the profitable employment of labor, and leaves behind a utility which yet fails to meet the public demand in every section of the country.

Since the Federal emergency construction highway fund was made available at the end of July, there has been placed under construction 7,020 miles of new highways, or more than sufficient to reach two times across the continent from the Atlantic to the Pacific. In addition 3,000 miles are ready to go under construction when weather permits, or a total of 10,000 miles which will involve a total cost of around $156,000,000.

The number of people in this time of depression who will receive a livelihood from this work will reach into the several millions, and the amount involved is less than 20 per cent of one year's income from the use of highways.

Economic recovery can not be helped by a breakdown in our sound administration policies.

SALES TAX HELD UNJUST TO WORKERS AND FARMERS

Iowa Cooperative Legislative Council Declares Tax Bills Before State Legislature Are Schemes to Victimize Labor.

Des Moines, Iowa.—Four bills in the Iowa State Legislature providing for a gross income tax and a gross sales tax were vigorously condemned by the Iowa Cooperative Legislative Council composed of farmers and labor organizations.

A statement issued by the council declared that the purpose of both measures is to burden the wage earners and farmers with a tax to operate the State Government.

"A gross sales tax and a gross income tax," the statement said, "seek to fasten the burden of State government upon those least able to bear it, while those who make profits are exempt from their fair share of taxation.

"Take the case of an unemployed worker who has been in the breadline for six months or perhaps two or three years. He gets a job. The gross income tax will attach a portion of his earnings for his first day's work. Then when he proceeds to spend his wages for the necessities of life he is met with a gross sales tax. He is thereby taxed upon both his earnings and his spendings.

"If they become a law, the bills will burden the wage earners and the farmers. They are abominations of taxation and not in keeping with the principles of our Government."

The bills which the Legislative Council seek to defeat are sponsored by Senators Stoakes, Hammond and Harrison and Representatives Brady, Koch, McFarlane and Moore.

The Council stated that instead of both gross sales tax and gross income tax, the wage earners and farmers should support the graduated income tax endorsed by the American Federation of Labor.

MUNICIPAL POWER PLANT SLASHES TAXES $183,000

Alameda, Calif.—The 28,000 persons living in the city of Alameda have paid for many of their city institutions and reduced taxes by owning and operating their electric light and power plant, according to the annual report of the Board of Public Utilities for 1932.

The plant was established in 1887, and has been expanded entirely out of earnings. It now represents an investment of $240,000 and has earned $184,276.

Last year the plant turned $183,000 of its net earnings into the general fund, sufficient to cut the tax rate 61 cents on each $100 of assessed valuation. It also financed the city unemployment relief fund of $11,000 for the 1,500 destitute families in the city, and had a surplus.

During the last ten years the power system has made a profit of $1,583,292. From the profits of the plant the city has developed a municipal golf course costing $240,000, purchased fire apparatus valued at $18,795, purchased two municipal parks for $19,000, built school buildings costing $114,000, constructed a fire station costing $15,000, purchased the Industrial railroad for $27,100, and built and maintains a city health center valued at $62,000.

It appears from the report that in Alameda the average cost of electricity to a household pays $4.27 for 100 kilowatt hours, while in Fresno, where the electric light and power system is operated for private profit, the price is $5. In the Alameda household are four refrigerators and uses 200 kilowatt hours, the publicly owned plant charges her $5.77, while in Fresno this charge is $9.50 for the same quantity.

Eight-Hour Law for Women Crippled by Denver Opinion

Denver, Colo.—A decision which looks like an attempt to nullify the Colorado eight-hour law for women and which was here by James N. Sabin, a justice of the peace, has declared that the law can be "wilfully" violated before an employer can be punished.

The decision was rendered in the case of Joseph Shaner, proprietor of a lunchroomette, who had forced women employes from eight and one-half to eleven hours per day.

Shaner blandly told the court that he had instructed the women not to work more than eight hours, and that he was very much surprised when he was informed that for more than a month they had worked the long hours charged in the complaint. He said he had corrected the situation as soon as it was called to his attention.

Justice Sabin held that Shaner's neglect was not willful defiance of the law, and held that he was not guilty.

District Attorney Wettengell prosecuted the case.

Green Pledges U. S. Labor to Work For End to Nazi Attacks on Jews

TRADE UNION CAMPAIGN INCREASES' MEMBERSHIP

Rock Island Labor Federation Blocks Low-Wage Employers by Drawing Unorganized Workers Into the Labor Movement—Enthusiastic Mass Meetings Held.

Rock Island, Ill.—The Tri-City Federation of Labor, covering Rock Island, Moline and Davenport, Iowa, reported increased enthusiasm and many new trade unionists in the Federation's campaign to spread the gospel of labor organization throughout this region.

"The very foundation of the labor movement depends upon its ability to organize thoroughly," declared the Tri-City Federation of Labor in explaining the purpose of the membership drive. "Its power to function depends upon the thoroughness of its organization.

"Local contractors are resorting drastic wage reductions among the organized workers. They are actuated in this move because of a knowledge that there are many unorganized craftsmen willing to accept the lower wage standards. Then, what is the sensible program to pursue? Organize these men and remove this competitive menace. There is no other solution, and the men who understand the trade union movement are aware of this fact.

"It is because of this great danger that conscientious labor movement that the Tri-City Federation of Labor has launched the leadership in the present drive for membership.

At the conclusion of the rally held in East Moline, over 150 applications for membership were filed with Secretary Ray King of the membership committee, which brought the total secured to nearly one thousand.

Excellent music is provided for each rally. At the East Moline meeting the St. Joseph Quartette of the Sacred Heart String Quartette scored tremendous hits.

It is the purpose of the Tri-City Federation of Labor to carry the message of trade unionism into every corner of the community. In addition the committee has a series of educational pamphlets analyzing the situation in connection with the local labor movement, showing the advances of the greatest cooperation and indicating the points of obstruction, so that every member of organized labor will know just what is transpiring in the local labor movement.

COAL PROBLEMS DISCUSSED BY MINERS AND ROOSEVELT

Washington.—Problems of the coal industry and possible Government help for the industry were discussed at a conference between President Roosevelt, headed by John L. Lewis, Secretary of the Interior Ickes and executives of the United Mine Workers of America. Headed by Secretary Ickes, at the end of the conference a statement was issued from the White House saying that there had been a general discussion of coal mining conditions "with a view to finding the best means for improving these conditions." It was added that further conferences with the President will be held.

President Lewis was accompanied by Philip Murray, vice president of the United Mine Workers; Thomas Kennedy, secretary-treasurer; Ellis Searles, editor of the United Mine Workers Journal, and Van A. Bittner, special representative.

FEDERAL 30-HOUR WEEK LAW WITHOUT PAY CUT

By H. F. LOVE
National Representative, Brotherhood of Railway Clerks

Although the Federal thirty-hour week bill introduced by Representative Connery of Massachusetts and favorably reported by the Labor Committee of the House of Representatives does not directly affect railroad employes, they are nevertheless very much interested in the principle involved.

The recent action of the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks held in Denver, Colo., in May, 1932, made the following declaration regarding unemployment and the shorter work day and work week:

"Technological development in industry has progressed to a point where under the prevailing hours of labor by far too many men and women are being met with ever decreasing numbers of workers. The condition has been aggravated to an incalculable degree by the present economic depression.

"It is apparent even to the most superficial observer that we are not as the reduced buying power of the masses of the people is conducive to recovery from the present economic depression will not ensue.

"Among those who are suffering most acutely from unemployment, partial employment and reduced earnings are railroad workers. As a means of stabilizing industry and providing employment for those unemployed, we reaffirm our support of the programs of the American Federation of Labor and of the railroad organizations for the shortening of the work day and the work week.

"We demand the 6-hour day and the 5-day week for our class of employes without lessening of present compensation.

To reduce the hours of labor and correspondingly increase employment, to do not assist present conditions. What we need more than anything else is to increase the buying power of the people. To share work only means to share existing purchasing power and does no good to improve the general economic conditions. In other words, while we believe in the principle of the 6-hour day and the 5-day week, we feel that this should be accomplished without reduction in compensation now received for the 8-hour day.

NATION'S BUYING POWER CUT TO 46.3 PER CENT OF 1929

New York.—The industrial population of the nation, including the employed and unemployed, is receiving only 53.4 per cent as many dollars in wages as in 1929, the National Industrial Conference Board reports.

A study by the board shows that since 1929 "industrial wage rates have been reduced 19.2 per cent; that working hours of employed workers have been shortened on the average 26.9 per cent, and that the volume of employment has declined 42.4 per cent."

As a result, the board reports, the nation's purchasing power is now 46.3 per cent of what it was in 1929.

BAY STATE MINIMUM WAGE LAW IS IGNORED

Low-Wage Employers Pay Women and Girls Less Than $6 Per Week and Flout State Decrees Which Have No Penalties — Labor Commissioner Urges Mandatory Wage Law and Labels for "Sweatshop" Goods.

Boston, Mass.—The recommendatory minimum wage law for women and girls in Massachusetts, with appeal to its only weapon against low-wage employers, has broken down, according to a statement issued by Edwin S. Smith, Commissioner of Labor and Industries.

Commissioner Smith referred to the low wages paid girls workers in Fall River and New Bedford, Lawrence and other cities, despite minimum wage decrees, as justifying more drastic legislation.

Employers Force Wages Down

He told of factories where employers paid all of their employes less than $6 a week. In two men's shirt factories investigated in February of this year, 61.2 per cent of the women and girls were earning less than $8 contrasted with 6.8 per cent who were below this figure a year ago. In one factory investigators found employers paying less than $5 for a 54-hour week's work.

Low-Wage Employers Lie

"When an extensive study was made of establishments in February, 1932, miserable wage conditions were uncovered," Commissioner Smith said. "It was claimed by many of the manufacturers at that time that these wages were due as a result of the workers' inexperience and would be corrected as the employes acquired more skill. Present facts do not bear out this pious hope.

"Wages such as are being paid in factories of this type are degrading to the worker, insufficient to provide a decent standard of living, and ruinous to the fair class of employers in the State who are obliged to compete with such low rates and are still trying to maintain decent wages."

Sweatshops Treat Law As Joke

"Our recommendatory law in Massachusetts has worked on the whole pretty well with the high-grade employers. It is a joke to the operator of a sweatshop. There is good evidence for believing that employes in some of these sweatshops are robbed of their charitable aid, the community thus subsidizing the employer's wages. This is grossly unfair competition to bring against the manufacturer who is striving to pay his employes enough to live on."

Mandatory Statute Recommended

In remedy for part of the situation wages paid thousands of women and girls in Massachusetts, Commissioner Smith recommended a mandatory minimum wage law with penalties enforced by law against employers who violate minimum wage decrees and the prompt enactment of the bill introduced by Representative Connery of Fall River, which would require the labeling of goods made in Massachusetts sweatshops.

ST. LOUIS BUSINESS GROUP OPPOSES JOBLESS INSURANCE

Chamber of Commerce Claims Kinney Bill to Protect Unemployed Workers from Destitution Would Cause Employers All Sorts of Trouble.

St. Louis, Mo.—Secretary Scott Dickens of the St. Louis Chamber of Commerce issued a call to arms against the unemployment insurance bill introduced in the State Legislature by Senator Kinney of this city, and urged all members of the organization and all Industrial Clubs to mobilize their strength to defeat the measure.

"The progenitor of the Kinney bill," Secretary Dekins's manifesto said, "would cause strife, force the maximum amount of annoyance and bookkeeping on employers, aid inefficient employers, penalize established industries, set up a bureaucratic commission with boundless powers, including unlimited taxing power on the cost of an unlimited number of State employes, and would put the finishing touches on a business harassed, tax-burdened, struggling business.

"The industries of this State should turn out en masse to protest against the adoption of this measure."

The bill which aroused the deep animosity of the antilabor Chamber of Commerce is a modified measure sponsored by organized labor to protect unemployed workers from destitution. It provides that after Jan. 1, 1934, all employers shall be assessed two per cent of their payroll for a fund which would until the reserve amounts to $50 per employe, when the levy becomes one per cent until the fund reaches $75 per employe.

Benefits would be 50 per cent of the worker's weekly wage, provided the payment does not exceed $15 per week for ten weeks. Thirteen weeks on the payroll would be necessary before a worker would render an employe eligible to the weekly benefit if laid off.

The fund would be administered by the Workmen's Compensation Commission. The State Treasurer would be the custodian of the fund, and employers would pay their assessments to him.

The Kinney bill is endorsed by the entire organized labor movement of Missouri.

The last convention of the American Federation of Labor endorsed unemployment insurance and pledged support such legislation in every State.

POLISH MINERS SAVE JOBS BY UNDERGROUND "STRIKE"

Warsaw, Poland.—Seven hundred coal miners remained underground six days at Klidzow to prevent employers from flooding the mine and putting them out of work. They refused to take any food for four days and only came out of the mine when they were promised jobs by the governor of Silesia.

The employers agreed not to dismantle the mine and announced the shutdown would be only temporary.

Southern Railroad Shopmen's General Chairman Dies at 45

Knoxville, Tenn.—B. R. St. Clair, general chairman of the federated shop crafts and machinists on the Southern Railway lines, died at his home here on March 27 after a long illness. Death was due to heart trouble. He was 45 years old. St. Clair succeeded Archie McGillivray as general chairman on the Southern railway lines in 1922.

MOONEY IS GRANTED NEW TRIAL IN BOMBING CASE

San Francisco Superior Court Judge Rules Prisoner Is Entitled to Be Tried on One Remaining Indictment Growing out of Preparedness Day Parade Explosion.

San Francisco.—Thomas J. Mooney is to have a new opportunity to prove his innocence of complicity in the bombing of the San Francisco Preparedness Day parade of 1916. He has been granted a new trial on the one remaining murder indictment growing out of the bombing. Date for the new trial has been set for April 26.

Mooney was granted a new trial by decision of Judge Louis H. Ward of the Superior Court, following argument by Leo Gallagher, who represented Mooney in the absence of Frank P. Walsh, his chief counsel. District Attorney Fickert opposed a new trial, but asked dismissal of the indictment if it was to be granted. He was overruled. Brady signed a statement withdrawing from the prosecution on the ground that Mooney's former conviction was unjustified and that there is not at this time evidence available that would support a conviction.

Judge Ward declared that Mooney was entitled to his "day in court" and said: "The presumption of innocence has been pursued and Mooney can prove that by new evidence he is entitled to his freedom if it is found he can prove it."

Informed of the decision, Mooney, who is confined at San Quentin prison, nearly 17 years on a life sentence, expressed his gratification and said he was confident of winning a new trial. He also said that acquittal would not alter the fact of conviction, but would strengthen his fight for pardon.

Judge Ward's decision came on the eleventh day of a 17-year battle to free Mooney. His friends contend that he was convicted as a result of perjured evidence and many individuals and organizations have supported this contention. The American Federation of Labor in 1919 expressed the conviction that there was grounds for believing there had been a grave miscarriage of justice in Mooney's case and has repeatedly asked that he be given a new trial.

MINERS' WAGE AGREEMENT IS CONTINUED IN WYOMING

Cheyenne, Wyo.—Benefits of trade unionism in preventing wage cuts were recently demonstrated by renewal of the present wage and working agreement between District No. 22, United Mine Workers of America, and Wyoming coal operators. The agreement was extended from May 1, 1933, to April 30, 1934, assuring miners in the State of wage scale for another year. The agreement to continue the present pact followed conferences between officials of District No. 22 and representatives of the operators. President John L. Lewis of the United Mine Workers assisted the district officials in the negotiations.

FREE SCHOOLS DEMANDED BY LABOR 100 YEARS AGO

By E. G. HALL
President, Minnesota State Federation of Labor

A close study of American history shows that the "Little Red School House" was the product of labor's demand as we have been led to believe.

In Colonial days the British government were strongly opposed to education for the working people or their children.

Sir William Berkeley, Governor of Virginia, said, "I thank God that there are no free schools or printing houses in Virginia: for learning has brought disobedience, and sects into the world."

At first, when the unions demanded free education, the ruling classes tried to compromise by giving them "pauper schools," which were only for the very poor.

They were started in Pennsylvania in 1818, but were wisely opposed by the workingmen, who continued to agitate for the abolition of the public schools, were established.

Similar stories are told of those days of the struggles of the poorer people to educate themselves and their children.

This shows that our public schools and public library systems were not a gift from the ruling class to the toilers of the working classes, but rather arose in response to the persistent demand for equal educational advantages.

A MECHANICAL DESPOTISM

By H. E. BOOTE
Editor, The Australian Worker, Official Organ of the Australian-Workers' Union

We can't go on being oppressed by the machine. Something will have to be done about it.

Man is a reasoning animal. It is hard to believe it when you look at the world today. There is not much reason in some of the things in the present situation of the human race.

Nevertheless it is true that man possesses the power of reasoning, and that he makes some use of it. It is unthinkable, therefore, that he will much longer permit himself to be the slave of the machine. What, then, will self brought into being?

Up to date man has turned millions of men into drudges.

They are not born to live, but to toil and to be exploited as tools, which it is impossible to take any deep-down interest—tools that awaken no creative impulses, and give no esthetic satisfactions.

Nor is that the worst. The Machine renders other millions of men superfluous.

It will not even allow them the status of serfdom.

Thus we have what is called the unemployment problem. It is really the problem of the Machine.

And matters have come to such a pass that we are the servants of the Machine or go right under to the most degrading tyranny that mankind has ever known.

Vast numbers of our species would be better off under the old conditions. Hundreds of modern times were wiped clean out of existence, and the world were put back to the age of handicraftsmanship.

That can't be done, and we wouldn't do it if we could.

But the Machine has got to be broken to the service of mankind. It has got to be used to minimise toil, and put prosperity into every home.

That CAN be done. Steps must be taken to ensure that it is.

Bill to Put 250,000 Men to Work On Reforestation Jobs Is Passed

JOBLESS INSURANCE BILL SAVED BY WOMAN'S SPEECH

Lavinia Engle Charges Bethlehem Steel Company Is Chief Opponent of Maryland Measure and Sentiment Swings to Pass Bill in House of Delegates.

Annapolis, Md.—A speech by Miss Lavinia Engle, member of the House of Delegates from Montgomery county, saved the Maryland compulsory unemployment insurance bill from defeat in the House. The bill was admitted to be on its way to defeat by roll call vote, when Miss Engle's name was reached. She voted for the bill, then declared that the Bethlehem Steel Company, which has a plant in Sparrows Point, Md., was one of the chief opponents of the measure.

"This big industry," she said, "is costing the taxpayers of Maryland $200,000 a year in public money, to carry the families of men they turned out and told to go to the charitable agencies. Now they come to ours and tell us and say it can't afford to pay 3-10 of 1 per cent of its pay roll into a compulsory insurance fund.

"Families of 1,231 of its employes are now under the care of public welfare agencies."

Her speech was greeted with loud applause. Six members who had voted against the bill changed their votes, others who had still to vote were influenced to favor the measure and it was passed by a vote of 72 to 27.

CHILD LABOR AMENDMENT URGED BY IOWA UNIONS

President Lewis of State Federation of Labor Mobilizes Friends of Children for Drive on State Legislature.

Des Moines, Iowa.—An appeal urging the trade union movement and civic, fraternal and church organizations to mobilize their strength to secure the adoption by the State Legislature of the child labor amendment to the Federal Constitution was made by J. C. Lewis, president and legislative representative of the Iowa State Federation of Labor.

The amendment is before the Legislature in joint resolution No. 9 sponsored by Senator Hopkins in the Senate and Representative Peet in the House.

Pointing out that as production became mechanized children are taking the place of adults by operating machines, Mr. Lewis declared:

"It is a pitiful situation to see men being deprived of the right to earn a livelihood because of technological or road unemployment and the placing of children to operate the machines.

"With 12,000,000 unemployed and many millions on part time employment it is time to face the necessity of the industry employing children.

"Those boys and girls have a God-given right to grow up strong in body and mind and to develop the very best that is them in mental, and physical achievement. But if they are to sacrifice their young lives on the altar of greed to inhuman exploiters, then what is to be the future of our country?

"Children working while men stand in breadlines is an industrial shame."

Green Urges Renewed Campaign To Ratify Child Labor Amendment

Washington.—Pointing out that four more States, Washington, Oregon, North Dakota and California, have ratified the Child Labor Amendment to the Constitution, making ten that have approved the amendment, President William Green of the American Federation of Labor urges labor to mobilize public opinion in favor of ratification of the amendment in every State.

Progress in ratifying the Child Labor Amendment is "most gratifying and most encouraging," President Green says in a letter to the secretaries of the State federations of labor and city central bodies. He adds that it should be the duty of labor everywhere to urge renewed action on behalf of this humane proposal and to concentrate all of their energy and power to persuade State legislatures to ratify the amendment in the present session.

"The time is opportune," President Green continues. "No better argument can be offered in support of the Child Labor Amendment than the distressing economic and unemployment situation which prevails throughout the country.

"In fighting for the prohibition of child labor in all States on a uniform basis, Labor is fighting for the protection of the workers of today and for the creation of work opportunities for the breadwinner and the father.

"Let us add seven more United States to the number which have adopted the Child Labor Amendment, and I call upon officers of State Federations of Labor and city central labor unions to appeal to the members of your respective State legislatures to ratify the amendment. Bombard your Senators and Representatives with letters, telegrams, resolutions. Let your citizens, call upon your friends to assist you. Appeal with all the power you possess to the legislators to do the one great thing needed at this present time to relieve the present unemployment—ratify the Child Labor Amendment to the Constitution of the United States."

Federation Campaign Increases Membership

Federal 30-Hour Week Law Without Pay Cut

Municipal Power Plant Slashes Taxes $183,000

Eight-Hour Law for Women Crippled by Denver Opinion

Free Schools Demanded by Labor 100 Years Ago

Sales Tax Held Unjust to Workers and Farmers

Free Vegetable Gardens For Cedar Rapids Jobless

Cedar Rapids, Iowa.—The distribution committee of the Cedar Rapids Unemployment Relief Committee decided to pay the salary of an expert gardener to be hired by the Playground Commission for supervision of the home gardening program which will be carried on this summer for the benefit of the unemployed.

It is expected that the 60 acres used for unemployment gardens last year will be available again this year through the cooperation of the land owners, Willard Hayes, playground superintendent, declared. The County Overseer of the poor will pay for plowing the land and will furnish the seeds for planting.

Last year the use of plots of vacant ground in various parts of the city were donated for gardening and over 1,200 families took advantage of the opportunity to raise their own produce.

Court Upholds Wage Claim Of Firemen and Policemen

Philadelphia. — Judges Bonniwell, Gable and Blount of the Municipal Court, sitting en banc, upheld the claim for back pay since 1921 of 181 policemen and firemen who were discharged by Director of Public Safety Schofield. The judges decided that the city must pay the back wages with interest, restore the discharged men to duty and refused a motion for a new trial. The decision upheld a ruling by Judge Bonniwell handed down last April in a test case.

Manufacturing Employment Shows Gain for February

Washington.—Employment increased 1.6 per cent in manufacturing industries from January to February, with pay roll totals in these industries increasing 5.8 per cent, the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U. S. Department of Labor, said in its monthly employment and payroll report.

Heretofore, the report has included workers in 16 non-manufacturing industries, but in the future, Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins, a separate report will be given on the non-manufacturing industries, showing that only two reported increases in employment from January over February, and increases in pay roll totals were shown for six.

Between January, 1932, and January, 1933, employment and pay roll indexes for the manufacturing industries with the indexes of February, 1923, show that employment has decreased 12.3 per cent during the year interval and pay rolls have decreased 26.5 per cent between February, 1932, and February, 1933.

Miners Strike Against Scrip

Hazard, Ky.—About five hundred miners employed by the Carrs Fork Coal Company near here declared a strike in "protest against payment in scrip, redeemable in trade at the company's commissary.

Labor Commends Action Of Senate and House

"Regimentation" Feature and $1-a-Day Pay Provision in Original Measure Are Eliminated as Result of Labor Opposition — Compensation and Manner of Recruiting Workers Left to President.

Washington.—Revised to meet in part labor's objections, a bill providing for the employment of 250,000 men in reforestation and other conservation work was passed by the Senate and House.

Following vigorous protest against "regimentation" and pay provisions of the original bill by President William Green of the American Federation of Labor and other labor representatives, the bill was amended to remove the stipulation of a wage of $1 a day for men on the enlisted in a "civilian conservation corps." The amendment gives the President authority to fix the manner of recruiting the workers and the right to fix a "cash allowance" for the workers in addition to "relief" bill instead of an "employment" bill, as at first.

The amended bill was passed after it had been favorably reported by the House Labor and Senate Committees. Chairman Connery of the House Labor Committee, who refused to report the original bill, also opposed the amended bill and fought it to the last.

Green Criticizes Bill

At hearings before a joint meeting of the Senate and House Labor Committees, President Green told why labor was strongly opposed to the bill as first proposed. He denounced it as providing for "regimentation" of workers and attacked the $1-a-day wage rate as demoralizing to wage standards.

Mr. Green said the enlistment and method of handling the men proposed by the bill would result in a method that labor did not believe it necessary to place the workers under any form of military control. He declared labor was unreservedly opposed to the rate of pay provided in the measure. He added that labor earnestly recommended that the rate of compensation of idle workers in projects covered by the bill be formulated to provide for the payment of standard wage rates under voluntary conditions of employment and that the element of "forced labor" and military service be completely eliminated.

He said money appropriated for public building, to be done under standard rates of pay, should not be used for the conservation work, as provided in the bill.

Find Other Money, He Urges

"My judgment," the labor head said, "is that under no circumstances should the money appropriated for building, construction of technical or road work be used to provide employment for those who are now unemployed. We propose to launch a project of this kind you should find other money to finance it."

The Senate bill provides that the Building Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor, opposed in opposition to the bill, declaring it would lower wages and keep building work out of employment.

The labor representatives appeared after Secretary Perkins, Secretary of Labor, had spoken in defense of the bill. She declared the bill was primarily a relief measure and denied that the work would be done in competition with private employment.

Why Not Cut Big Insurance Salaries, Labor Paper Asks

Toledo, O.—"Why not trim the big insurance company salaries?" asks the Toledo Union Leader, official organ of the Toledo Central Labor Union, pointing out that an investigation in Wisconsin revealed the payment of fat salaries to the heads of insurance companies which do business in the State.

"It was found," the Union Leader says, "that the average salary paid to life insurance presidents was $50,000 in 1932, and workers are finding much more that figure. Five presidents, for example, received an aggregate salary of $1,136,000, or an average of a little more than $225,000 each. One life insurance company board chairman received $96,000 and another $101,000."

While insurance company officials have taken salary reductions, wage rates have continued at their old high level, wages of workers generally have been employ have been unmercifully slashed, the paper says, and asks:

"Why is it for economy, don't the economy shouters direct a part of their efforts toward the big insurance companies and the big private utility companies?"

Agrees to Employ Union Labor

Rochester, N. Y.—The McDonald-Spencer Engineering Company of New York City has agreed to employ union men on the new hospital building here. The company, a general contracting firm, has been employing non-union workers.

William N. Doak's Brother Dead

Detroit, Mich.—Edward Doak, brother of William N. Doak, former Secretary of Labor, died here following a paralytic stroke. He was a member of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and was connected with the border patrol service of the United States Bureau of Immigration.